

MAY 15, 2014

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 5:00 p.m.

Present were: STRAW, GIBBS, WARRUM, WALKER, and WILSON along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Adam Farrar.

The following visitors were present: Michael Runion, Patrick Callahan, John Dailey, Derick Wiggins, Betty Gibbs, Alvin & Jennifer Blaylock, Amanda Bryden, Eric Parsley, Virginia Alsop, Connie Weinzapfel, Brenda Drone, Valerie Werkmeister, Bobby Grider, Scott Champlin, David Flanders, Debbie Bennett-Steersman, Sue Krozel, Carlene & David VanLaningham, and Caroline Williams.

Councilman Walker made and Warrum seconded a motion the minutes of the previous meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Park Board President Sue Krozel reported the Park Board has set a tentative date of June 7 for a ribbon cutting for the new trail, pending Council approval. They plan to begin at 10 a.m. at the corner of Third and North Sts. Council approved the date.

Councilman Wilson reported the monument repairs at Maple Hill Cemetery were delayed due to the weather. They plan to begin the work May 16. Fifty-nine monuments will be repaired. Also, a work day is scheduled for May 18 at Maple Hill Cemetery, beginning at 1p.m. He hopes to focus on cleaning stones, removing limbs, and doing some small painting jobs.

Connie Weinzapfel, co-chair of the Bicentennial Commission, presented each Council member with a commemorative book that was published for the event. She stated the calendar of events is available on the Town's website. She reviewed some of the events scheduled for the capstone week to be held August 1-10. Ms. Weinzapfel recognized Pat Gosh for all her work on the time capsule, which will be buried on December 6.

Eric Parsley, with Commonwealth Engineers, reviewed the results of the condition assessment study they conducted at the wastewater treatment plant. He stated some operational issues were also identified while they were conducting the study. They have compiled a list of all the conditional and operational issues, assigned an estimated remaining life span, and provided potential corrective measures. They also prioritized the issues that were discovered. Mr. Parsley submitted written copies of the report and offered to attend a future meeting if needed. Councilman Gibbs asked if Mr. Parsley felt the Town needed to build a new plant. Mr. Parsley commented the structures themselves are in pretty good shape and economically it would be better to work with what is there.

Patrick Callahan, with Callahan CPA Group, reported on the rate study he conducted on the wastewater utility. He pointed out that the report he prepared is a draft. Mr. Callahan reviewed the contents of the rate report, including the Town's bond requirements, what expenses can legally be built into the rates, etc. He commented that the rate report can be amended to include items from Commonwealth's assessment report that the Town chooses to implement. As it stands right now, without any new projects, the study shows the need for approximately a 10% increase.

Derick Wiggins, with Midwestern Engineers, opened and read aloud the following bids on the storm water improvement project: Blankenberger Brothers - \$546,980.; Deig Brothers - \$942,416.; Hughes Paving - \$766,530.92.; Ragle Inc. - \$855,007. Mr. Wiggins pointed out there are some alternates that will reduce the total bid. He recommended that Council take the bids under advisement so they can be reviewed and they will then report back.

Councilman Gibbs made and Walker seconded a motion that a request from Posey Co. Pound Puppies to use Murphy Park and the old school parking lot for their pedaling for pups fundraiser on September 20 be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

David Flanders thanked the Town and all others involved in making Arts in Harmony a success.

Councilman Warrum made and Walker seconded a motion the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Joe Straw, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer